

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
12 December 2002 (12.12.2002)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 02/100023 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: G06F 15/16

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US02/17689

(22) International Filing Date: 4 June 2002 (04.06.2002)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/295,943 5 June 2001 (05.06.2001) US
60/296,238 6 June 2001 (06.06.2001) US

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(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.

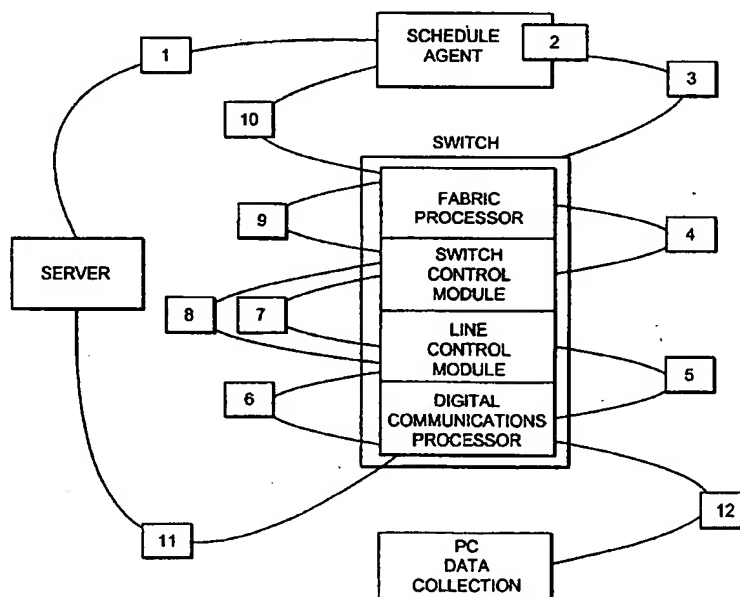
(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: REAL-TIME NETWORK SCHEDULED PACKET ROUTING SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: A system for guaranteeing bandwidth for transmitting data in a network. A path generation engine determines a data paths across a network according to preselected criteria. A scheduling engine (2) determines schedule appointments for data packets to traverse each link in the network including compensation for transmission delays and switch latencies. Scheduling data is communicated to schedule-aware switches (3, 10) and endpoints so that appointment times are reserved for transmission of the scheduled data packets. Real-time transmission of data can be guaranteed in both directions along the transmission path.

WO 02/100023 A3



(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
27 February 2003

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US02/17689

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : G06F 15/16

US CL : 709/203, 220, 223, 226, 228, 232; 707, 1, 2

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 709/203, 220, 223, 226, 228, 232; 707, 1, 2

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
Microsoft Computer Dictionary

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

Please See Extra Sheet.

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 6,230,200 B1 (FORECAST et al) 08 May 2001, abstract, fig.2, col.5 line 45 to col.7 line 46, col.9 line 44 to col.11 line 57.	1-44
Y	US 6,044,367 A (WOLFF) 28 March 2000, abstract, fig.1B, col.5 line 42 to col.7 line 23, col.15 line 57 to col.18 line 51.	1-44

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E" earlier document published on or after the international filing date	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&" document member of the same patent family
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

03 SEPTEMBER 2002

Date of mailing of the international search report

10 DEC 2002

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Room 1400, P.O. Box 1000, Washington, D.C. 20540-1000 (July 1998)*

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US02/17689

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Electronic data bases consulted (Name of data base and where practicable terms used):

WEST, STN, EAST, IEEE

Search terms: network, bandwidth reserved, communication paths, guaranteed delivery data, process threads, server and clients, packet flows, node, flow schedule